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Message Text

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44
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SMI-01

PA-01 PRS-01 /026 W
---------- 014357
R 211048Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 81

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, BU
SUBJECT: EXHIBITS: PHOTOGRAPHY USA AND THRACIAN ART

REF: A. USIA 20070 B. SOFIA 1589 C. SOFIA 1746 D. STATE 10147

1. APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY FOR DIALOGUE ON NEXT STEPS, FOR THE SITUATION DOES LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT.

2. TURNDOWN ON "PHOTOGRAPHY USA" WAS PRESENTED TO US AS STRICTLY TECHNICAL RESULT OF ALL EXHIBIT HALLS BEING BOOKED FROM DECEMBER UNTIL LATE SPRING (REF B), ENTIRE PERIOD EXHIBIT IS AVAILABLE FOR SOFIA. WE SUSPECT GOB SIMPLY DIDN'T WANT MAJOR U.S. EXHIBIT AT ANY TIME AROUND PARTY CONGRESS. IN EITHER CASE, TYING THRACIAN EXHIBIT TO "PHOTO USA" WOULD NOT CHANGE DECISION ON LATTER, BUT WOULD REPRESENT STEP BACKWARD IN DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CULTURAL RELATIONS TOWARD UNDESIRED "RECIPROCITY."

3. IN FAIRNESS, WE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CHARACTERIZE AS PROGRESS WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE GOB'S DECISION NOT TO SEND THRACIAN EXHIBIT TO U.S. DURING 1976. WHILE DISCUSSION WITH PROF. FOL WILL BE VALUABLE, IT WILL NOT IN ITSELF ASSURE AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY IF HE IS GIVEN IMPRESSION THAT SITES' ABILITY TO HANDLE EXHIBIT
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DURING 1977 WILL "DEPRECIATE CONSIDERABLY," COMPARED TO

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1976 (REF D).

4. WE OF COURSE WILL MAKE POINTS IN REF A, PARA 3.
FOL ALSO WOULD BE PROPER PERSON TO HEAR THESE POINTS,
AND WE HOPE THEY CAN BE MADE IN WASHINGTON. FYI:
INCIDENTALLY, FOL TOLD P&C OFFICER LAST FALL GOB WANTED
THRACIAN ART TO TOUR U.S. AND "IN RESPONSE" WOULD BE
ABLE ACCEPT U.S. EXHIBIT. WE OF COURSE DO NOT WANT TO
FALL IN WITH CONCEPT OF RECIPROCITY, BUT FROM GOB POINT
OF VIEW THEY ARE ALREADY ONE STEP AHEAD OF US BY HAVING
ACCEPTED THE JOSE LIMON DANCE COMPANY.

5. WE ARE INCLINED NOT TO PUSH THE BULGARIANS WITH RESPECT
TO ANOTHER EXHIBIT AT THIS TIME UNLESS IT IS REALLY FIRST-
RATE. (CF. THE AMBASSADOR'S TELEGRAM ON CULTURAL EXCHANGES,
SOFIA 960 OF JUNE 11, 1974.) WE WOULD NEED FULLER
SUBSTANTIVE AND TECHNICAL DETAILS TO DETERMINE WHETHER
"REFLECTIONS" WOULD BE WORTH THE MAJOR HIGH-LEVEL
EFFORT REQUIRED TO GET IT ACCEPTED HERE.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 AUG 1975
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Decaption Note:
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